liposome composition which [characterized by]:

(a) is composed of vesicle-forming lipids including an amphipathic vesicle-forming lipid derivatized with a hydrophilic biocompatible polymer of a size and in a molar amount effective to extend liposome blood circulation time, measured 24 hours after said injection, severalfold and over that achievable in the absence of the hydrophilic polymer,

[(b) liposomes having a selected mean particle diameter in the size range between about 0.07-0.20 microns,]

[(c) containing] (b) contains in liposome-entrapped form, a therapeutic compound active against the pathogen causing the infection, and

[(d) ability] (c) is able to accumulate selectively in the infected tissue following parenteral administration, thereby to concentrate liposome-entrapped drug at the infection site.

14. (Amended) A method of preparing [an antimicrobial] a therapeutic agent for localization in an infected region of tissue, when the agent is administered by parenteral injection, comprising

entrapping the agent in liposomes which [are characterized by]:

(a) are composed of vesicle-forming lipids including an amphipathic vesicle-forming lipid derivatized with a hydrophilic biocompatible polymer of a size and in a molar amount effective to extend liposome blood circulation time, measured 24 hours after said injection, severalfold and over that achievable in the absence of the hydrophilic polymer,

([b) liposomes having a selected mean particle diameter in the size range between about 0.07-0.20 microns,]

[(c) containing] (b) contain in liposome-entrapped form, a therapeutic compound effective against the source of the infection[.] ; and

[(d) ability] (c) are able to accumulate selectively in the infected tissue following parenteral administration, thereby to

concentrate liposome-entrapped drug at the infection site.

--17. The composition of claim 9, wherein the therapeutic compound is an agent selected from the group consisting of antibacterial agents, antiviral agents and antifungal agents.

18. The composition of claim 17, wherein the antibacterial agent is a quinolone antibiotic.

19. The method of claim 14, wherein the therapeutic compound is an agent selected from the group consisting of antibacterial agents, antiviral agents and antifungal agents.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the antibacterial agent is a quinolone antibiotic.--

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the claim amendments before prosecution.

I. Amendments

Claims 9 and 14 have been amended to remove the liposome size restriction. Support for this amendment finds basis in the application on, for example, page 23, where liposomes having a size of between 0.1-10 microns are disclosed. On page 23, lines 27-30 states that liposomal compositions above or below this size range (referring to a preferred size range of 0.07-0.2 microns) may be effective in delivering drugs to an infected region.

Support for new claims 17-20 can be found on page 39, lines 9-25, with specific support of the quinolone antibiotic at line 13.

Accordingly, no new matter is added by these amendments.

If in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference